



Park County Sheriff's Office



2021 Annual Report

Scott A. Steward, Sheriff

"Service, Safety, Security"



***A MESSAGE FROM
SHERIFF SCOTT A. STEWARD***



To the citizens of Park County:

The goal of the Park County Sheriff's Office is to provide service, safety, and security for our citizens; while the department is made up of a diverse staff of individuals the ability to come together as a team for this common goal is unsurpassed. The year 2021 was a continuation of the difficulties born in 2020. Though the turmoil raging in our country and the world seems to be an endless wave after wave of uncertainty, these individuals of the Park County Sheriff's Office - this team – stayed steadfast in their commitment, their integrity, and served without fail.

In 2021, several members of our team retired, moved on, or transferred within the department. We welcomed many new faces and said goodbye to long-time employees. As is typical in Law Enforcement, the Detention Center experienced most of these changes. Two transfers to Patrol, four retirements, and two resignations, added up to eight new employees in the Detention Center this year. The Communications Division saw one resignation, one transfer, and gained two new employees, bringing several years of experience with them. And finally, along with Patrol's two transfers from the Detention Center, there was a promotion to Sergeant and a new Undersheriff appointed, along with the Search and Rescue Coordinator achieving his POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) certification and offering his skill set as a Patrol Deputy as well.

The trend from 2020 to 2021 showed only a slight increase to the calls that were fielded by the Park County Sheriff's Office Communication Division, along with an increase in the number of calls that Deputies responded to. Our Detention Deputies cared for an average of 43 detainees each day with an actual 3.8% decrease in total bookings for the year. And the administrative assistants, cooks, and Search and Rescue Volunteers stayed faithful in their everyday activities to keep the Sheriff's Office running smoothly, caring for the inmates, and selflessly serving our community.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Steward
Sheriff, Park County, Wyoming

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MAJOR INCIDENTS – The Park County Sheriff's Office continued to navigate the ever-changing terrain of COVID-19 and all its variants, especially in the Detention Center. Engaging in deeper cleaning, mask usage, video court, and the suspension of some activities still in place, the Detention Deputies have strived to protect the inmates, the staff and their families, and visitors to the Detention Center. While this issue is at the forefront of everyone's minds another



silent battle, many do not see, also rages on in the background. The fight for the health and needs of those suffering from mental health problems to be met. In 2021 twenty-one (21) Title 25 holds were in the Park County Detention Center. A Title 25 (WSS 25-1-109) hold is a hold placed on an individual in order to detain them for the protection of themselves or others, placed by a mental health professional, licensed physician, or law enforcement officer. These twenty-one individuals occupied either the padded cell or an alternate protective housing (to accommodate multiple mental health holds simultaneously) for a shocking 230 of 365 days in 2021.



On March 16th, 2021 at 10:41 A.M. a suspect in at least one felony auto burglary, a felony theft, unauthorized use of credit cards, and multiple mail thefts was taken into custody after a multi-agency pursuit by the Park County Sheriff's Office and Carbon County Sheriff's Office in Montana. The outstanding and critical cooperation between multiple states, counties, and cities led to the safe conclusion of this event.

At 9:15 A.M. A Park County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) deputy attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle at milepost one on Highway 291 (Southfork Highway), the suspect vehicle refused to yield to the lawful stop. The pursuit then began and was quickly joined by the Cody Police Department and the Wyoming Highway Patrol. The suspect vehicle continued down the Southfork hill and onto Yellowstone Avenue, maintaining speeds of about 45 mph. The suspect vehicle continued onto Sheridan Avenue, disregarded two traffic lights, and failed to maintain a legal lane of travel. The Park County Sheriff's Office, Wyoming Highway Patrol, and Cody Police Department continued to follow the suspect vehicle, turning onto 16th street. From there the

suspect vehicle accelerated to 50 mph and continued to Big Horn Avenue and onto the Powell Highway where speeds reached 70 mph.

Meanwhile, Communications Officers in the Park County Sheriff's Office were efficiently and rapidly gathering information to disseminate to Wyoming Highway Patrol Dispatch, Powell Police Department Dispatch, Carbon County Montana Sheriff's Office Dispatch, and Big Horn County Sheriff's Office Dispatch alerting these other agencies that assistance was needed and coordinating all of their efforts. All the while one dispatcher was assigned solely to monitoring the pursuit radio traffic, documenting everything that was said, and providing a safety net for the active pursuers.

The suspect vehicle continued from Highway 14A to Lane 11, turned onto Highway 294, and then proceeded northbound on Highway 120. The suspect vehicle managed to dodge spike strips three separate times and multiple patrol vehicles. PCSO Communications officers already had Carbon County Montana Sheriff's Office on the phone preparing for the event to spread over the state line. Once permission to continue over the state line was granted PCSO deputies continued into Montana and were joined by Carbon County Sheriff's Office. The Carbon County Sheriff's Office successfully disabled the vehicle with spike strips. The suspect then turned off the highway into a residence, crashing through a fence and into a lone pine tree which prevented the vehicle from striking the house. The suspect initially refused to leave the vehicle, but after lengthy negotiation was eventually safely taken into custody.

There was no damage sustained to any of the patrol vehicles, equipment, or personal property other than that listed above. This interagency collaboration, including patrol and communications staff, was the key to this successful outcome.

PATROL

PERSONNEL – During 2021, the Patrol Division gained two transfers from the Detention Center, one new Sergeant, a new Undersheriff, and the Search and Rescue Coordinator becoming a deputy. Patrol Deputies are primarily responsible for providing public safety by maintaining order, responding to emergencies, protecting people and property, enforcing motor vehicle and criminal laws, and promoting good community relations.

On January 1st, 2021 Sheriff Scott Steward started the New Year by promoting Sergeant Andy Varian to Undersheriff, thus starting a new era for the Park County Sheriff's Office. Undersheriff Varian replaces the retired Undersheriff Thomas C. Ehlers, Jr. who left the department in December after a lifetime of service.



Undersheriff Varian joined the Park County Sheriff's Office in October of 2011 as a detention deputy. He was transferred to patrol in May of 2013 and promoted to Sergeant in 2019. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix. He is also a graduate of the Fresno Police Academy as a non-sworn officer. Undersheriff Varian hails from California where he worked part-time with the Ripon Police Department working with their traffic safety section assisting with traffic safety grants, traffic studies, and other administrative tasks. While visiting family in the Cody area he and his wife decided Cody, Wyoming was where they wanted to call home. They live here with their four children.

Undersheriff Varian has a clear vision for the future of the department:

My goals are to continue to foster the culture of professionalism within the department and maintain partnerships with the community. I ultimately intend to keep the peace and to promote the mindset of public service. Although the economy is uncertain, and resources are limited, a high priority is to maintain and further develop training standards that best prepare deputies and dispatchers for the mental and physical challenges of the job. Law Enforcement service across the country appears to be getting more difficult rather than easier. An emphasis on training will help Sheriff's Office personnel stay sharp, have an active mindset, and be experienced to deal with the challenges of a growing

community. I intend to continuously evaluate gear for what works well, what doesn't, and what can be improved.

He not only intends to ensure quality service from the personnel he supervises, but he means to motivate and lead the department with pride and professionalism while commanding their respect.



On Sunday, May 9th, 2021, Sheriff Scott Steward promoted Deputy Phil Johnson to the vacant Sergeant position in Cody. The position had been vacant since Undersheriff Varian was promoted in January. Sergeant Johnson joined the department in June of 2007 as a Detention Deputy, making the transfer to Patrol in 2011. He remained on Patrol until 2016 when he assumed the position of the Department's lone investigator. This duty is a rotating position in the department where Deputies can serve a two to three year term. After completing that assignment, he returned to patrol in 2019. Along with a vast knowledge and understanding of many roles within the department, he also holds a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice. Having been born and raised in Wisconsin, Sergeant Johnson relocated to Cody in 2007 to be closer to his parents (who had moved here previously for employment) and to start a Law Enforcement career, as he knew that's what he wanted to do. He grew to love and call Park County home. He lives in Cody with his wife and their dog. He enjoys running and biking around the area.

On March 17, 2021, Deputies Tyler Morean and Bronson Faughn transferred to the department's patrol division. The Deputies were reassigned from the Park County Detention Center and replaced the positions left by a Deputy who resigned and Sergeant Andy Varian who was promoted to Undersheriff.



Deputy Tyler Morean began his Park County Sheriff's Office career with the Detention Center in June of 2018. He attended Oak Hill High School in Oak Hill California. While he originally relocated here to be near family, he has grown to love the community and the environment. He comes from a long line of Law Enforcement Officers and intends to continue in his family's tradition.

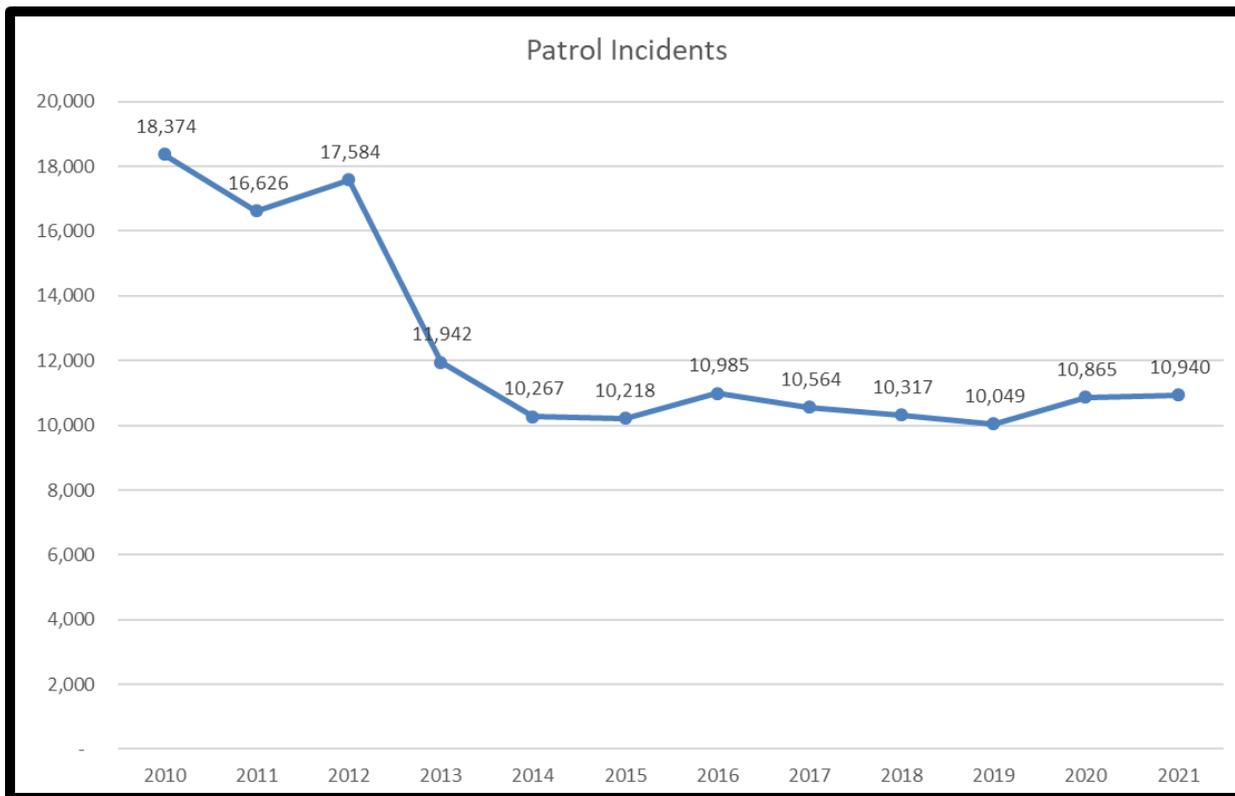
Deputy Bronson Faughn began his time with the Park County Sheriff's Office in July of 2020 with the Detention Center. Deputy Faughn attended Meeteetse High School and later went on to graduate from Casper College with an associate degree in Forensic Science. He began his Law Enforcement career with the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office where he served three years in the detention center as a deputy. He then took the opportunity to continue his law enforcement career closer to home.



PATROL ACTIVITY – Overall patrol activity did see a slight increase in 2021. Total incidents were up by less than 1%, total case investigations (including non-criminal investigations) down by 11%, and total arrests down by 4%. In addition, the sheriff's office saw a 6% increase in traffic stops. In 2021, Deputies responded to 10,940 patrol incidents which included 1,499 traffic stops, 316 criminal investigations, 864 non-criminal investigations, 207 felony and misdemeanor arrests, 112 motor vehicle crash investigations, 149 warrant service attempts, 3,246 motor vehicle inspections, 556 animal calls, and 1,492 civil service attempts.



All of this activity was accomplished by patrol Deputies who are responsible for patrolling nearly 7,000 square miles of rural Park County.



INCIDENTS

Total Patrol Incidents	10,940
Calls for Service Incidents	5,683
Deputy Initiated Incidents	5,257
Traffic Stops	1,499
Other Incidents	3,758
Business/Building/Vehicle Checks	7
Vehicle/Pedestrian Check	2

ARRESTS

Total Arrests	207
Misdemeanor Arrests	139
Felony Arrests	68

WARRANTS

New Warrants Received	369
Warrants Closed	553

CASE INVESTIGATIONS

Total Case Investigations	1,292
Vehicle Accident Investigations	112
Criminal Investigations	316
Non-Criminal Investigations	863
Unclassified Investigations	1

VIN INSPECTIONS

Total VIN Inspections	3,246
VIN Inspection Fees Collected *	\$32,460.00

CIVIL SUMMONS

Total Service Attempts	1,519
Total Served	583
Total Attempts with No Service	951
Civil Service Fees Collected *	\$20,550.00

CITATIONS

Total Citations Issued	372
Misdemeanor Criminal Citations	79
Traffic Citations	249
Unclassified	44

* Fees collected are returned to the county general fund / includes work release fees

PATROL INCIDENTS BY TYPE

Description	Count	Description	Count
911 Hang-Up Call	68	NCIC/WCJIN Related	176
Abandoned Vehicle	54	Notify City Departments	30
AIR MEDICAL AMBULANCE	1	Nuisance Complaint	10
Intrusion/Holdup	60	Open Door/Window	6
Ambulance Call	19	Other Accident	3
Animal Bite	14	Other Law Violations	28
Animal- Deceased	6	Parking Problem	19
Animal-Lost	96	Patrol-Extra	63
Animal-Noisy	2	Pedestrian Stop	2
Animal Call - Other	135	Person-Found	2
Animals on Roadway	195	Person-Lost	3
Animal-Stray	108	Phone Related Complaint	3
Assist other Agency	631	Prisoner Transport	9
Assault	18	Probation Check	1
Attempt to Locate	30	Probation Violation	4
Auto Burglary	6	Property Damage	60
Bar Walk-Through	2	Property-Found	60
Body Found	39	Property-Lost	54
Bomb Threat	1	Protection Order	14
Building Burglary	15	Prowler	2
Child Welfare	25	Reddi Report	45
Citizen Contact	106	Road Closure	10
Civil Attempt	1492	Road Hazard/Blockage	75
Civil Dispute	89	Runaway Juvenile	14
Civil Standby	55	Search & Rescue Call	29
Custody Dispute	12	Security Check	1
Disturbance	46	Sexual Assault	18
Domestic	38	Sexual Offender Notification	7
Drill/Exercise	2	Sexual Offender Record	4
Drug Related	15	SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION	119
Escort-Funeral	2	SEX OFFENDER REPORTING	86
Extra Patrol Request	47	Special Incident 1	11
Fire Call	11	Stolen License Plates	1
Fireworks Complaint	8	Stolen Vehicle	17
Officer Flagged Down	37	Suicide Attempt/Threat	38
Followup	82	Suspicious Activity	128
Forgery/Counterfeit Complaint	2	Theft	87
Fraud Related	66	Threats	20
Harassment	32	Traffic Complaint	80

Safety Hazard	2	Traffic Stop	1499
Incorrigible Juvenile	24	Training Duty	30
Informational	56	Trespass Complaint	98
Intoxicated Subject	5	USFS Patrol	109
Littering	8	Vehicle Inspection	3246
Mental Problem	2	Warrant Service Attempt	149
Deliver Message	12	Weapons Offense	7
Miscellaneous Assistance	426	Welfare Check	116
Motor Vehicle Crash	145	Total	10940

DETENTION

PERSONNEL - In 2021 the Park County Detention Center hired eight new Deputies. All new hires were the result of resignations or reassignments. There was no increase in staffing levels.

April 1st, 2021 was the last day for Deputy Royal Duneman. Deputy Duneman retired after a long and dignified career in law enforcement. He began his service with the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office. On February 2nd, 2015 he joined the Park County Sheriff's Office as a Detention Deputy. He was also a Field Training Officer (FTO) for the detention center, FTOs are responsible for the in-house training of new hires. A valued member of the team that provided a wealth of knowledge to the facility.



July 1st, 2021 marked the end of a long and dignified career for Deputy Dan Ramey. Deputy Ramey retired after seventeen years in law enforcement. Beginning in March of 2004 Deputy Ramey began his career in the "old" Sheriff's Office located on 11th Street. Throughout his career in the Detention Center, Deputy Ramey could always be depended on to be professional, courteous, and was known for his quick wit and easy-going temperament.

On August 16th, 2021 a law enforcement career that began in 1973 came to an end. Deputy Mark Longo retired after an amazing, diverse, and honorable career. While this journey started for Deputy Longo in 1973, his time with the Park County Sheriff's Office started in May of 2006. After serving in the Airforce, Kemmerer Police Department, Cody Police Department, Wyoming Highway Patrol, and the Big Horn County Sheriff's Office, he decided that his final step would be the Park County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Longo was regarded as an exceptionally professional and distinguished deputy and could be counted on to be reliable, dedicated, and most importantly, kind. He was a valuable member of the team.





Then on December 31st, 2021 Sergeant Mike Warner celebrated his retirement from the Park County Detention Center after having served since July 1st, 2013. In September of 2019, he was promoted to Sergeant for the Detention Center. Sergeant Warner is a 41-year veteran with Wyoming National Guard having attained the rank of Command Sergeant Major. He served 2 tours in Iraq where he supervised the transport of detainees. Originally from Sturgis, South Dakota, Sergeant Warner considers himself a lifelong resident of Cody.

The Detention Center Welcomed eight new members this last year. All bringing a combination of experience, education, and prior training with them. Pictured below are Deputy Joseph Commins (June 2nd, 2021), Deputy Sasa Starkjohann (June 6th, 2021), Deputy Walter Sweeny (June 20th, 2021), Deputy Gunnar Hill (August 9th, 2021), Deputy Tanner Quick (August 16th, 2021 not pictured), Deputy Nicholas Heuser (September 27th, 2021), Deputy Challen Heuser (September 27th, 2021), and Deputy Jerimiah Ringler (October 10th, 2021).



COVID-19 RESPONSE – The Park County Detention Center is a 106-bed facility that is a twenty-four-hour, seven-day-a-week operation. The staff is tasked with the safe and secure confinement and management of inmates. 2021 was an example of the staff's ability to adapt and evolve quickly and efficiently. In continuing to combat COVID-19 there were extra sanitization efforts employed in the facility, coupled with an increase in video court, and the continued suspension of some activities. The staff also continued to reevaluate policy, making updates and modifications as needed, focused on training, and streamlining the processes in the Detention Center.

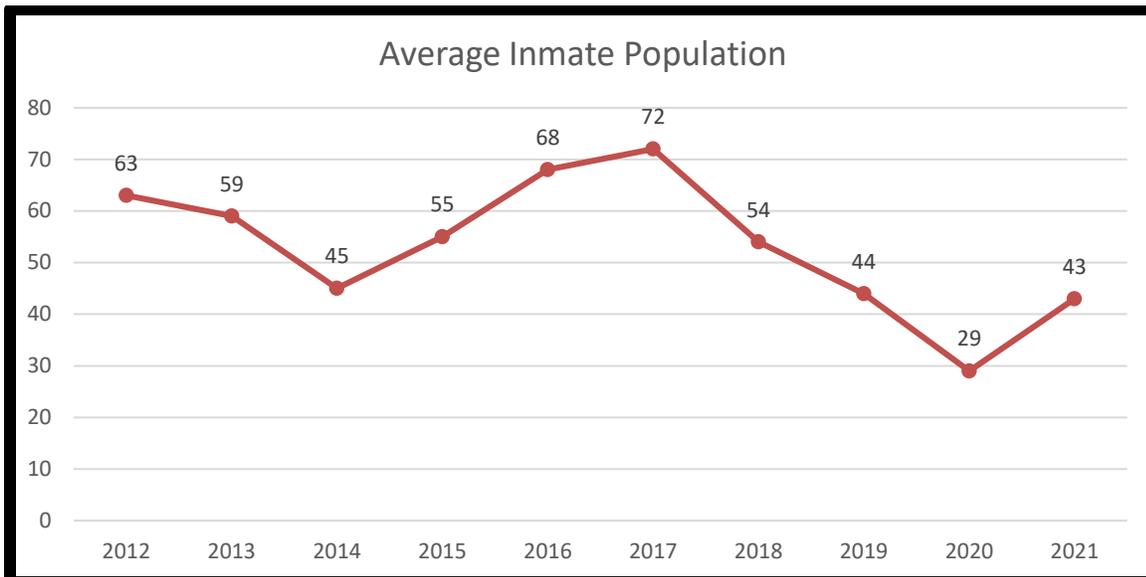
DETENTION ACTIVITY - In 2021, the Park County Sheriff's Office Detention Division booked a total of 689 prisoners into the holding facility, a 3.8% decrease from 2020. However, the average inmate population increased to 43 from 29 in 2020. The inmate population has been on a steady decline since 2017 when the average hit a 10-year high of 72.

TOTAL DETENTION BOOKINGS BY YEAR
(Including the percent change from the previous year)

Agency	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Park County Sheriff	257 (+5%)	219 (-15%)	212 (-3%)	158 (-25%)	135 (-15%)	130 (-3.7%)
Cody Police Dept.	472 (+18%)	469 (-1%)	553 (+18%)	509 (-8%)	305 (-40%)	297 (-2.6%)
Powell Police Dept.	336 (+27%)	296 (-12%)	377 (+27)	183 (-51%)	118 (-36%)	99 (-.16%)
Wyoming Highway Patrol	38 (-12%)	29 (-24%)	42 (+44%)	52 (+24%)	27 (-48%)	37 (37%)
Other Agencies *	6 (+100%)	5 (-17%)	4 (-20%)	20 (+400%)	5 (-75%)	9 (80%)
New Bookings / New Charges **	918 (+17%)	1,014 (+5%)	1,027 (+1%)	794 (-23%)	590 (-26%)	646 (9.4%)
Total Bookings	1,112 (+16%)	1,182 (+6%)	1,192 (+1%)	922 (-23%)	716 (-22%)	689 (-3.8%)

* Division of Criminal Investigation, Bureau of Land Management, & Probation and Parole

** Includes “weekender” where someone comes to serve time on weekends only.



USE OF FORCE - The Park County Detention Center also tracks the use of force incidents against inmates within our care and protection. These incidents are created whenever a detention Deputy must utilize force against a non-compliant inmate. This can be in the form of compliance holds such as a wristlock up to and including the use of non-lethal weapons such as a Taser or pepper spray. We continually strive to keep these incidents to a minimum by providing the best possible training to our Deputies in methods to mitigate situations before resorting to physical force. As with use of force incidents, we continually strive to minimize inmate assaults through training. All inmates who assault officers or other inmates are prosecuted under state law.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Use of Force Incidents *	19	6	14	8	11	13	9	21
Inmate Assaults	2	5	8	15	3	4	4	6

* Force is used to gain compliance only

REVENUE GENERATED BY THE PARK COUNTY DETENTION DIVISION *

Miscellaneous **	\$ 9,106.08
Inmate Phone system	\$ 18,301.32
Medical Reimbursement	\$ 5,728.05
Court Restitution	\$ 1,036.52
Total	\$ 34,171.97

* All revenues are returned to the Park County General Fund

** Fingerprint/Notary/Record fees/CCW fees/SOR Registration Fees

COMMUNICATIONS

PERSONNEL - In 2021, the Park County Sheriff's Office Communications Division experienced one resignation and transfer in this last year. Opening the door for the hiring of two very experienced dispatchers. Janene Shreve and Kaare Dean came into the Communications Center almost seamlessly.



Shreve comes from Teton County where she spent five years as a Communications Officer, shift supervisor and trainer. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree and is certified in multiple aspects of dispatching. She relocated to Cody for the change but wanted to continue her work as a dispatcher. Being already Wyoming POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) certified she was able to quickly become a source of knowledge and new learning for the rest of the team.

Dean retired after twenty-one years with the Salem Oregon Police Department. There she carried out a multitude of roles. She served as a tactical dispatcher that dispatched for SWAT team callouts, a trainer, and holds an FBI Hostage Negotiations Training Certificate. On top of all of that, she was also a dive instructor for twenty years in both Seattle, Washington and Salem, Oregon.



DISPATCH ACTIVITY - The Park County Sheriff's Office Communications Division handles calls for the Park County Sheriff's Office, Cody Police Department, Park County Search and Rescue, Cody Regional Health Ambulance, and the Cody, Powell, Meeteetse, and Clark Fire Districts. In 2021, eight total Communications Officers handled 23,422 calls for service, including 8,505 calls received via the 9-1-1 emergency phone system. This equates to over 2,927 calls per Communications Officer. Park County 911 Communications Officers play many roles: therapist, doctor, teacher, weatherman, guidance counselor, psychologist, priest, secretary, supervisor, politician, travel agent, and reporter. And few people must jump through the emotional hoops on the trip through the routine of one caller's request for a phone number, to the fear of

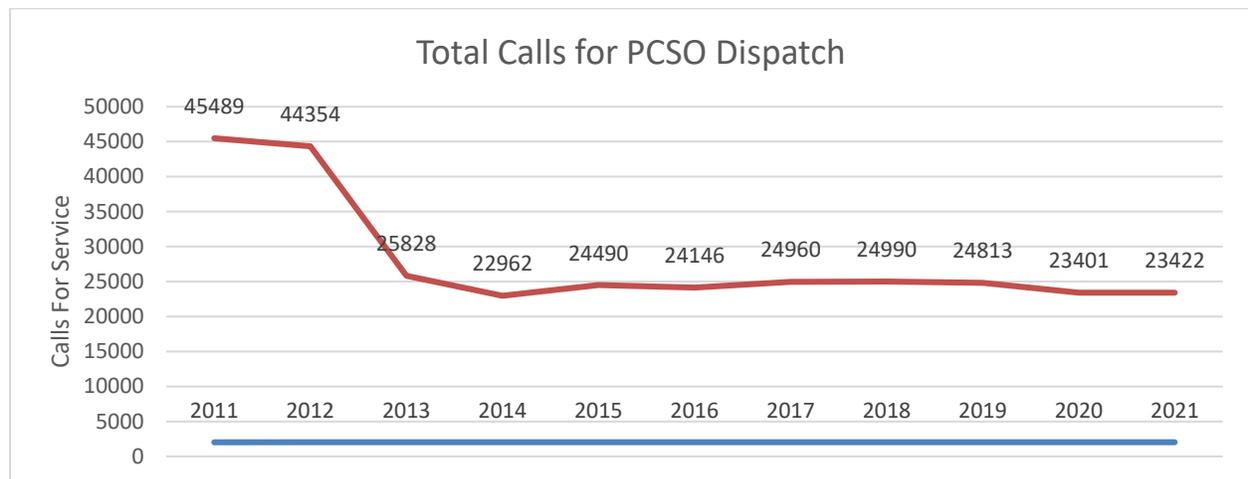
another caller's burglary in progress, to the anger of a neighbor blocked in their drive, to the sorrow of a caller who lost their pet, to the stress of an officer's request for help, and back to the phone number request all in a five-minute time frame. But Park County Communications Officers accept these responsibilities with expertise and confidence.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION CALLS FOR SERVICE (% Change from 2020)

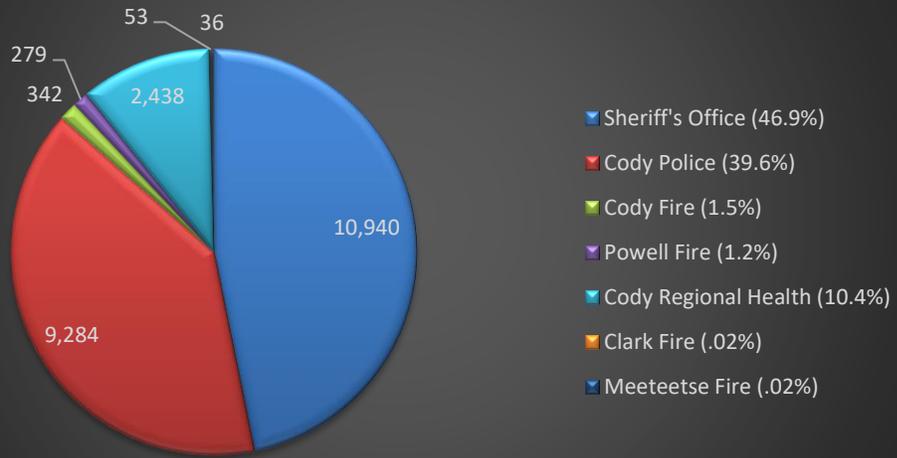
Park County Sheriff's Office	10,940	(0.69%)
Cody Police Department	9,248	(-2.76%)
Cody Fire Department	342	(9.62%)
Clark Fire Department	53	(3.92%)
Powell Fire Department	279	(36.10%)
Meeteetse Fire Department	36	(-2.70%)
Cody Regional Health Ambulance	2,438	(2.31%)
Park County Search and Rescue	29	(-19.44%)
Total Calls for Service	23,422	(0.09%)

CONTROLLED BURN PERMITS

Total Permits Issued	2,699
Cody/Meeteetse Area	1,213
Powell/Garland/Ralston/Clark Area	1,486



Calls for Service by Agency



SEARCH AND RESCUE



SAR ACTIVITY - The Park County Search and Rescue Unit (SAR) is comprised of 30 to 35 volunteers, from all walks of life who are ready at a moment's notice to selflessly sacrifice their time and put themselves in harm's way to serve the citizens of Park County. They are trained in various skills including but not limited to first aid and CPR, wilderness search, aircraft search, urban

rescue, swift water and ice rescue, mountain rescue, canine search, avalanche search, land navigation, and critical incident stress management. In 2021, SAR received 29 calls for service with 25 of those evolving into actual missions for Search and Rescue Personnel. From stranded motorists to water rescue this diverse and dedicated team of individuals is highly regarded as one of the best in the state. Led by Deputy Bill Brown, this team trains tirelessly to remain sharp, skilled, and ready in the event of an emergency.

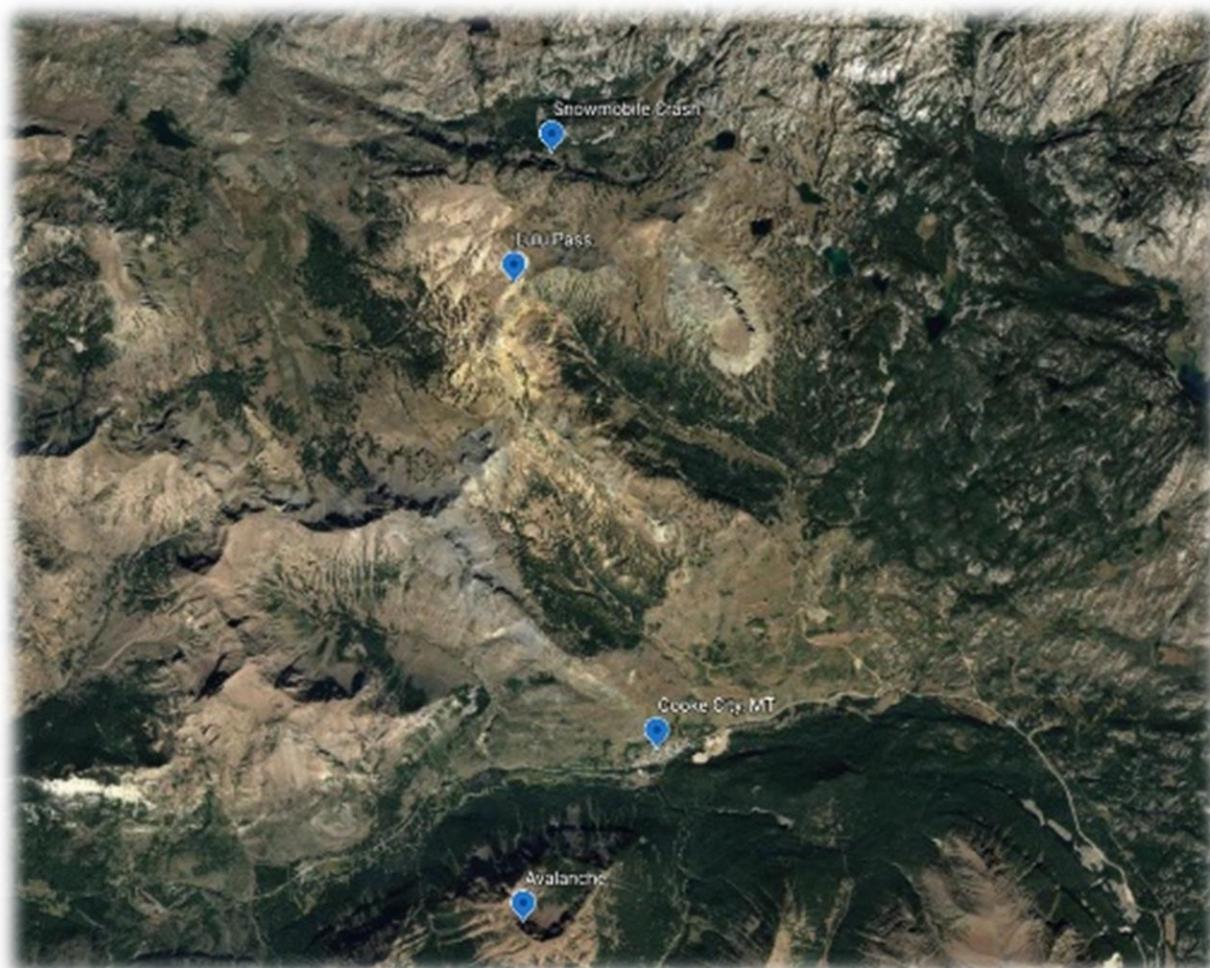
PERSONNEL – On April 21st, 2021 Deputy Bill Brown (PCSAR Coordinator) completed the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy. Commonly referred to as "Peace Officer Basic (POB)," this is the State-run certification for Peace Officers in the State of Wyoming hosted in Douglas, Wyoming the POB:

Utilizes an integrated, phased teaching approach and guided experiential learning concepts. Students are taught and evaluated on curriculum established and certified by the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy (WLEA) and the Wyoming Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission in the core competencies of criminal law, interpersonal interactions, professional skills, enforcement skills, and investigative skills. (www.wleacademy.com)

Totalling 605 hours of instruction the students are required to successfully complete all aspects of the curriculum. Including Criminal Law, Interpersonal Interactions, Professional Skills, Enforcement, Investigative, and Administrative topics. The knowledge and professionalism that come from this training is of the highest standard and distinction and not an easy task to undertake.



NOTABLE MISSIONS – On Friday, January 8, 2021, at 1:10 P.M, Park County Sheriff's Communications Center received a report of a snowmobile crash, with injury, on Lulu Pass north of Cooke City, Montana. Park County Wyoming Search and Rescue (PCWSAR) was requested to assist with the evacuation of the injured rider as Park County Montana Search and Rescue (PCMSAR) was already working to evacuate several skiers caught in an avalanche on Republic Mountain south of Cooke City just south of the Wyoming/Montana border. PCWSAR



immediately deployed two ground teams with snowmobiles and a tracked rescue vehicle to the area. The injured 40-year-old female had attempted to navigate around a large snow cornice and rolled approximately 40 feet down a steep embankment. During the fall, her snowmobile rolled over her right leg causing what was believed to be a complex fracture below the knee. Her riding companion immediately went to her aid. After assessing her condition and rendering first aid, he managed to get her snowmobile back to an upright position. He then assisted her back on the snowmobile, and they rode down the mountain towards the highway. They were met by several Forest Service employees who further assisted in her evacuation. After they all made it to Highway

212, they were met by members of PCMSAR who transported the injured party via sled to a waiting ambulance at the Pilot Creek parking area. She was then taken to Cody Regional Hospital.

On Thursday, February 18, 2021, at 8:00 p.m., the Park County Sheriff's Dispatch received a report of two overdue snowmobilers in the Beartooth Mountains east of the Top of the World Store. A 22-year-old male and 21-year-old male began snowmobiling at 8:00 a.m. that morning and had contacted a friend at 5:00 p.m. to say that one of their sleds had become



disabled but they were trying to get back to the highway on their own. No location was given. Park County Search and Rescue (PCSAR) was immediately activated and deployed to the area on snowmobiles. They were assisted by volunteer members of the Cody Country Snowmobile Association (CCSA) and volunteers from Snow Search. They searched through the night eventually suspending operations at 4:00 a.m. At 7:00 a.m. on Friday, February 19, 2021, the search resumed. Additional searchers from the Wyoming Game and Fish, Shoshone National Forest, as well as many individual volunteers, joined in the search which was being coordinated by PCSAR. Air resources were summoned in the form of two helicopters: one from the Cheyenne Army Air National Guard and another from the Air Force Rescue Wing out of Malmstrom, Montana Air Force Base. Additionally, the PCSAR fixed-wing airplane joined in the search. At one time, over 50 volunteers on snowmobiles were mobilized in the search area. At 4:00 p.m., a forensic trace on the victim's last cell phone call which was requested earlier in the day by the Park County Homeland Security Director (PCHSD), indicated that the call was made in an area south, southwest of Fantan Lake. Searchers immediately began to comb that area during which they discovered the abandoned snowmobile belonging to the victims. Tracks from the sled indicated



that the men went south over a steep incline after abandoning the sled. However, given the terrain, weather conditions, and nightfall approaching, it was decided to suspend the search and return to formulate a search plan for the following day. At 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 20, 2021, PCSAR once again deployed with all of their snow search equipment. Additionally,

the PCHSD once again requested a helicopter from the Air Force Rescue Wing out of Malmstrom Airforce Base, Montana. Once the helicopter, a Bell UH-1 Iroquois (Huey) arrived on the scene, two PCSAR members boarded for an aerial survey of the victim's expected route based on the

terrain and prior day's evidence. From the air, they were able to pick up snowmobile tracks headed down a steep draw towards the bottom of the mountain. Eventually, the snowmobile tracks became human tracks. At the same time, several members of the CCSA proceeded to the base of Table Mountain on snow machines to search that area. After the aerial survey, the Huey landed east of the base of Table Mountain and dropped off the PCSAR members in order to return to Cody for fuel. As soon as the Huey departed the area, the ground teams heard the victims shouting for help from an area of spruce trees several hundred yards up the mountain. Snowmobilers immediately began a steep ascent, eventually reaching the victims. Both appeared to be in relatively good shape. They were exhausted, dehydrated, and hypothermic. They were brought down the mountain and evacuated via the Huey to a waiting ambulance from Cody Regional Hospital. One victim refused treatment while the other was transported to the hospital for treatment of severe frostbite.



On Thursday, May 6th, 2021 members of the Park County Search and Rescue (SAR) participated in a river clean-up action that included five SAR members, Park County Sheriff Scott Steward, SAR Coordinator Bill Brown, and the Sheriff's personally owned raft. On an area of the North Fork of the Shoshone Riverbank,

between the Wapiti Ranger Station and the Bill Cody Ranch, there set two large and unsightly culverts. Sheriff Scott Steward reached out to the United States Forest Service District Ranger to offer assistance. One culvert was successfully moved and disposed of. The other was too large and filled with sand, making it impossible to move at this time. However, the team was able to clear some other debris from the area



that was discovered along the way. The water expertise of these volunteers was necessary for the safe removal of this culvert. As seen in the pictures, it had to be carried downstream



to a safe landing area. Though there is no immediate plan for the second culvert the team is optimistic that another attempt might be made in the fall after the water level goes down. While this did provide an excellent training opportunity for the five members and their coordinator, it also allowed them to further aid Park County. These amazing volunteers are

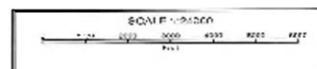
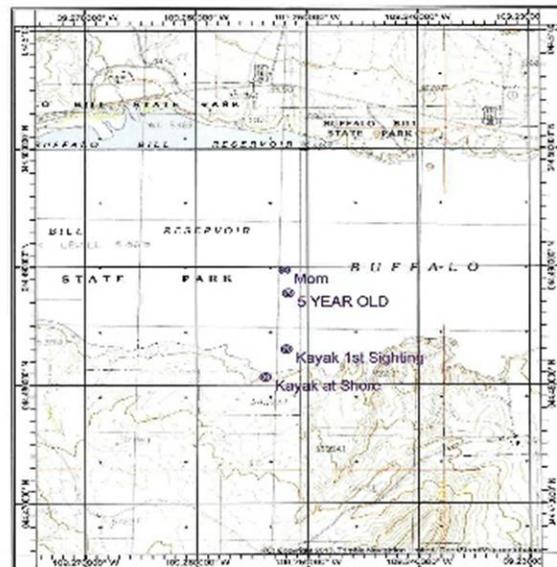
dedicated to the service of Park County and can be counted on in situations both great and small.

On Friday, July 9th, 2021 at 4:39 P.M. the Park County Communications Center received a report of a 67 year-old-male and a 72 year-old-female that were unable to get back to their vehicle and requesting assistance. Park County Search and Rescue (PCSAR) and a Cody Regional Health ambulance were dispatched to respond. The pair were at Lily Lake in the Beartooth mountains. The female had been kayaking in the lake and overturned her kayak. While she was able to get back to shore, she and her husband suffered exhaustion from the event and were unable to make the hike back to their vehicle. The subjects were located at 6:52 P.M. They were then assessed and assisted back to their vehicle by 7:23 P.M. They were safe and unharmed.



On the same date at 5:17 P.M. just as PCSAR units were arriving at the hall to respond to Lily Lake a second call for help was received by the Park County Communications Center. A 28 year-old-female and her 5 year-old-child were being blown out onto the Buffalo Bill Reservoir by the sudden high winds. The mom was on a sit-on-top kayak, towing her child on an innertube at the North Shore. When the wind quickly picked up the kayak was blown away from the shore and further into the reservoir. PCSAR, Park County Sheriff's Office, Cody Regional Health EMS, and the Cody Fire Department were all dispatched to the scene. While rescue

personnel were still en route it was reported that the kayak had flipped and both parties were in the water at 5:29 P.M. The first unit was on scene at 5:33 P.M, PCSAR wasted no time getting in the water. Deputies assisted by taking high points on the bank and glassing (binoculars) the water. The wind was blowing and gusting so hard it was pushing the units still onshore forward. The surface of the water was very turbulent and nothing but white caps which were 6 to 8 feet tall, were visible



to the searchers. At 5:50 P.M. the kayak was located empty. Additional personnel arrived to assist

and with both watercraft and persons in the water, the teams began to expand their search perimeter. Finally, at 6:06 P.M. the child was located, she had a personal floatation device (PFD), and was conscious and alert. She was quickly lifted into the boat and wrapped in blankets. She was treated immediately by a Paramedic on board, taken to shore, and turned over to the waiting ambulance. At 6:24 P.M. her mother was found; she had managed to stay above water and was also conscious and alert. She too was lifted into the boat and immediately treated by a Paramedic on board. She was then transported to the shore and turned over to the waiting ambulance where she was reunited with her daughter. Both were transported to Cody Regional Health.

September 9th, 2021 at 3:36 P.M. Park County Sheriff's Office Communications Division received a call for assistance on Highway 14-16-20 West near mile marker 27.5. An 84-year-old male had fallen and sustained an injury to his back and head while fishing. He was located about 500 yards upstream under the bridge near the river's edge. Park County Search and Rescue (PCSAR), Park County Sheriff's Deputies, and Cody Regional Health Ambulance were all paged to respond. A Sheriff Deputy was the first unit to arrive on the scene at 4:15 P.M. As other units were arriving the Cody Fire



Department, returning to Cody from another call, also stopped to assist. The gentleman was assessed by EMS and packaged with a cervical collar and full-body vacuum splint for spinal immobilization. He was then hauled up the hill via a rope haul system that PCSAR personnel had constructed. He was secured to a litter and transported to the waiting Cody Regional Health ambulance at approximately 4:58 P.M. A "rope haul system" is an example of the specialized training that the Park County Search and Rescue Team has received. This method is utilized to provide a mechanical advantage in moving large items with minimal effort. Referred to as a "Dual Main 3:1," the hauling system provides a pull that is three times easier. Preventing fatigue on the rescuer and providing a safer extraction for the subject. The multi-agency cooperation, that has become the standard in Park County, along with high levels of training and experience, led to another successful rescue mission.

TRAINING – On September 17th through the 19th 2021, Park County Search and Rescue



(PCSAR) attended a three-day Rope Technician Training Course certified by Rescue 3 International. The training was a three-day intensive study into technical rope rescue, which has been utilized several times this year by the Park County Search and Rescue team. The class was described as "combining skills that build on the operations level course to operate in mid and high/vertical angle rope environments." The three-day training focused on building and operating rope systems, but also provided the knowledge

of how the systems work. Understanding the forces at work and how they are applied allow for rescuers to access individual situations and troubleshoot problems if they arise. This coupled with short haul training, simultaneous calls training, swift water rescue training, and many others are just a few of the specialties that make this team so valuable to our community.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Community Outreach Program ensures that the Park County Sheriff's Office is active in programs designed to



serve the needs of county residents while promoting a positive image for department



personnel. The Sheriff's Office has always taken pride in the services provided to this community. In 2021 the Park

County Sheriff's Office participated in parades, town events, Christmas programs, and received a huge outpouring of love and support from the local communities.

STAMPEDE PARADE – The Park County Sheriff's Office participated in both the Stampede Parade and the Stampede Kiddie Parade. The turnout this year was amazing, even the Unofficial Sheriff's Office Mascot, Hoser, made an



appearance for the parade. There were



staff, volunteers, and their families on hand to celebrate independence with Park County.

SHIELD 616 - On May 16th, 2021, at 10:45 A.M the Park County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division Deputies were presented with their new Angel Armor body Armor, provided by the Organization SHIELD 616 in partnership with local community donors. The Deputies were both thrilled and humbled by the contributions, not only the number of donations but how quickly and without hesitation they were given. The Shield 616 Organization "was founded with the goal of providing all-day rifle protection for Peace Officers and First Responders who sacrificially serve our communities." Founded by a former Police Officer, SHIELD 616 is a non-profit group that works with communities securing donations for the purchase of specialized armor to protect those who protect and serve. The Organization's Founder Jake Skifstad personally spoke at the





presentation, which was graciously hosted by the Cody Bible Church in Cody. Not only did he share his personal experiences that led to the founding of his organization, but he showcased the importance of the local community support to Law Enforcement, something Park County has never run short of. The money raised was roughly \$2400.00 per Patrol Deputy

in order to provide each of them with a new Angel Armor RISE 2.0 vest with Truth SNAP 308 C Plates and a Revision BALTSKIN VIPER A3 helmet. The body armor is a dual, light weight, multi-hit capacity vest, which is rifle rated and able to be worn all day if needed but has the convenience of being an outer vest, making it removable during the shift. The helmets are specifically designed for Law Enforcement officers and rated to the National Institute of Justice's Level IIIA protection (which can be read about here, <https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/body-armor-performance-standards>). SHIELD 616 will continue to solicit community backing as the body armor does expire, and they will continue to do so in a way that highlights the importance of the community and their involvement. A Law Enforcement Agency is, and should be, a reflection of its community, its community standards, and the citizens themselves. Thank you to everyone, for donations, tournaments, food, cards, and the kind words that have been received. The Park County Sheriff's Office is extremely grateful for this community, that has never failed to show support. Financial or otherwise. Donations can be made at <https://shield616.org/law-enforcement/Gear> can be viewed at <https://shield616.org/viper/> and <https://angelarmor.com/products/truth-snap/>.



WITH HONOR – 2021 saw the return of many beloved activities. Some of which our staff had the honor and pleasure of attending. Special Olympics Wyoming held the Cody Games this year and members of Law Enforcement were privileged to offer support in the Torch Run. A favorite among many, this was an



activity that was missed. A Memorial Day event was held in Meeteetse, featuring a lovely ceremony that the Sheriff's Office was also proud to be a part of. And Cody Regional Health hosted a lunch in the Law Enforcement Center parking lot in celebration of Police Week. Being a part of Park County is truly a humbling experience.

SHOP WITH A COP - On December 8th, 2021 local Law Enforcement agencies were happy to



"Shop with a Cop" for real. Hosted by the Highway Patrol Association and Wyoming Highway Patrol, the event has participants from agencies statewide. The program is



intended to foster a positive relationship between law enforcement and the kids involved. Last year there had to be modifications to keep the program going, the Park County Sheriff's Office was given a list of children and a bag full of gifts. The Deputies then played Santa Claus, delivering to different families, gifts and baskets of food from the First Ladies' Hunger Initiative program. However, this year the excitement and joy of buying and wrapping gifts together was back in full swing. While this is a statewide effort it would not have been possible without the local donations



and the cooperation of local businesses. This is a huge endeavor for the entire community and this year was certainly no exception.



